Spring Session of 1856.

Minutes of the 172nd Session

OF

RANGE PRESBYTERY,

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Minutes of the 172nd Session

OF

ORANGE PRESBYTERY.

Shiloh Church, GRANVILLE, Co., N. C.
June 11th, 1856.

Presbytery met according to adjournment and was opened with a sermon by Rev. J. M. Sherwood, from Rom. 14th chapter, 17th verse. Constituted with prayer.

Present, Thomas Lynch, A. Wilson, D.D., R. Burwell, Geo. W. Ferrell, Thos. R. Owen, James Phillips, D.D., Wm. N. Mebane, E. Hines, J. Doll, A. Currie, S. A. Stanfield, F. N. Whaley, T. U. Faucette, John M. Sherwood, J. J. Smyth, W. P. Wharton, J. W. Montgomery, J. M. Atkinson, Ministers.

With Messrs. Thomas H. Hughes, John Bullock, Joshua Butler, John W. Wilson, John Berkeley and W. J. Hogan, Ruling Elders.

Rev. J. J. Smyth was chosen Moderator, and Revds. A. Currie and J. W. Montgomery, temporary clerks.

Rev. Messrs. A. Wilson, D.D., Robert Burwell, Geo. W. Ferrell and James Phillips, D.D., being called on, rendered to Presbytery reasons for not attending the last stated Session of Presbytery.

Rev. William N. Mebane and Mr. Thomas H. Hughes were appointed a committee to examine the first half of the Sessional Record.

And Rev. Thomas R. Owen and Mr. W. J. Hogan, were appointed a committee to examine the remaining half

Rev. Robert Burwell and Mr. John Bullock, were appointed a committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

The Report of the committee of Domestic Missions was made the order of the day for Saturday at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Roll was called and the ministers present reported that they had observed the third chapter of the Directory for Public Worship.

The committee appointed to install Rev. Joseph M. Atkinson, Pastor over the Church of Raleigh, reported that they had attended to that duty.

The report of the committee on the standing Rules was made the order of the day for Thursday after recess.

Presbytery heard reports form Revds. Messrs. Mebane and Whaley, two of the Commissioners to the last General Assembly.

The Rev. Joseph M. Atkinson reported that he did not consider the way open to organize a church at Stalling's Depot.

Rev. L. K. Wiley, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

Presbytery then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12th, 1856.

Presbytery met according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

Presbytery then spent half an hour in devotional exercises.

The minutes of yesterday were read and corrected.

The following members appeared in Presbytery, gave excuses for tardiness and took their seats, viz: Wm. P. Wharton, Minister. Messrs N. M. Lewis, Jesse H. Lindsay and Samuel D. Booker, Ruling Elders.

The Rev. J. M. P. Atkinson, of the Presbytery of Baltimore, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

Rev. A. Wilson, D.D., reported that he had visited the church of Newbern and attended to the duty assigned him by Presbytery.

Alexander Wilson, D.D. James Phillips, D D. and S. A. Stanfield, Ministers, and Mr. Richard V. Watkins, Ruling Elder, were appointed a committee to examine candidates on their literary course.

The following subjects were assigned to Mr. E. Harding, as parts of trial, viz:

For a lecture the 15th Psalm.
For a critical exercise, John 1st chapter, 1st to 5th verses.
For a sermon, Matthew 12th chapter, 30th verse.
For an Exegesis. "Au sit peccatum originale."

The committee appointed to invest the Devereux fund, made a report which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz:

The committee appointed to invest the funds appropriated to the Union Theological Seminary, beg leave to report that they have bought three North Carolina coupon State bonds, the interest of which is due 1st April, and 1st October of each year. These funds have been entered upon the books of the Seminary as follows:

For Frances Devereux Scholarship, the beneficaries to be nominated by Orange Presbytery,	$2,500
For the permanent funds of Seminary,	500
	$3,000

There was a balance of a little over $30, which was paid to Mr. E. H. Harding, the present beneficiary, by the nomination of the Presbytery.

Respectfully submitted,

S. A STANFIELD,
J. W. NORWOOD,
C. DEWEY.

June 12th, 1856.

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Presbytery appointed the hour of 10 o'clock on Friday as the time to hear Rev. J. M. P. Atkinson on the subject of his agency.

The Committee appointed to revise the standing rules of Presbytery made a report which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz :

"The committee to whom was referred the business of revising the Standing Rules and of suggesting whatever amendments, alterations, &c., in their judgment may be necessary, beg leave to present the following as the result of their labors, to wit :

"Whereas, your committee found great difficulty in collecting the Standing Rules, scattered as they are through several volumes of Records :

And whereas, your committee found it difficult to decide in many cases whether certain resolutions were designed to be standing rules or not : Therefore

Resolved, that all the Standing Rules preceding this date be and hereby are abolished, and that the following be adopted in their stead as the Standing Rules of this Presbytery :

Rule 1. All Standing Rules shall be introduced with these or some such words denoting that they are standing rules, viz :

Resolved, that it be a standing rule of this Presbytery that, &c.

Rule 2. The rules appended to the Book of Discipline entitled, "General Rules for Judicatories," are hereby adopted as Standing Rules for the government of this Presbytery.

Rule 3. At every regular meeting of Presbytery preceding the meeting of Synod or of the General Assembly, there shall be a free conversation on the state of religion within our bounds, for the purpose of drawing-up a narrative in accordance with the requirement of both these bodies.

Rule 4. A portion of the morning, commencing at 10 o'clock of the second day of the stated sessions of Presbytery, shall be spent in devotional exercises.

Rule 5. At each stated meeting the Moderator shall call on all Ministers present who are marked as absentees to state their reasons for any previous failures to attend ; he shall then enquire if any member wishes to remark on the reasons offered, and if an expression of disapprobation is called for by any case, such remarks or motion as the case may seem to require shall be made. If no motion be made, the question of sustaining the reasons or not sustaining shall not be put by the Moderator, and the minute or record shall be in the following or like form, viz ;

The Rev. Mr. being called on rendered to Presbytery reasons for not attending the last or former stated sessions of Presbytery.

Rule 6. The churches under our care having stated supplies are required to report annually to Presbytery respecting the fulfilment of their reciprocal duties and engagements, and due record thereof shall be spread annually on the session book of each congregation, specifying in every case the sum paid, and arrearages, if any, that may be due from the people to their respective Ministers.

Rule 7. A sermon shall be preached at each stated meeting of Presbytery, by some brother previously appointed, and the subject shall be assigned to him by the Presbytery.

Rule 8. In choosing a Moderator, the persons to be voted for shall first be nominated, and any member shall be allowed to nominate whom he will; after the nominations are all made, the roll is to be called by the Stated Clerk, and no person is to be voted for unless he has been previously nominated. A plurality of votes shall decide the election.

Rule 9. Commissioners to the General Assembly shall be nominated at least one day before the election.

Rule 10. No candidate shall receive aid from the Education Committee before he places himself under the care of Presbytery.

Rule 11. At each stated meeting of Presbytery that immediately succeeds the meeting of the General Assembly, the Treasurer shall be required to present his accounts to Presbytery with the proper vouchers. And the said papers shall be audited by a committee appointed for the purpose.

At the same meeting the Treasurer shall report every Church that has failed to pay its presbyterial assessment.

Rule 12. At each stated meeting of Presbytery that immediately succeeds the meeting of the General Assembly, two committees shall be appointed to examine sessional records.

And Church Sessions are hereby required to present their records at that meeting.

Rule 13. At each meeting that immediately succeeds the meeting of the General Assembly, each member shall be called on to state how much has been contributed by the churches under his care for the four Boards of the Church and the Committee on Church Extension.

Rule 14. No Church may employ a stated supply without the permission of Presbytery.

Rule 15. During the regular sessions of Presbytery, recess shall be taken for the purpose of attending worship with the congregation.

Rule 16. At every regular meeting of Presbytery the roll shall be called and inquiry shall be made whether the third article in the Directory for Worship is observed by all our Ministers.

Rule 17. The Committee on Education shall notice, in their annual

reports, the names of all the unlicensed candidates for the Ministry under the care of this Presbytery, and give some account of the progress that each candidate has made in his studies.

Rule 18. The Pastor or Stated Supply of the congregation within whose bounds the Presbytery may meet, shall be required to have such books in readiness as may be necessary for the examination of candidates.

Rule 19. Presbytery will hereafter raise annually by assessment on the churches, the sum of $367 to be called,

"The Presbyterial Fund."

Of this fund the Treasurer shall pay annually—

1. To the contingent fund of the General Assembly a sum equal to 50 cents for each Minister and each Licentiate of this Presbytery.
2. The annual travelling expenses of our Commissioners to the General Assembly.
3. The contingent expenses of the Presbytery, salary of the Stated Clerk, Postage, &c.
4. The quota of this Presbytery to the contingent expenses of Synod, salary of the Stated Clerk, Postage, Printing Minutes, &c.
5. To those Directors of Union Theological Seminary who have been appointed from this Presbytery, their travelling expenses to and from the Seminary.
6. For the printing of the Minutes of the Presbytery. And the said amount of $367 shall be raised according to the assessment made at the meeting of Presbytery at Spring Hill, June 19th, 1854.

Rule 20. At every regular meeting the roll shall be called and inquiry shall be made to ascertain if there are any poor belonging to our churches who are supported by public charity.

Rule 21. All licentiates under the care of this Presbytery are required to be present at the regular meetings or to send a written report of the manner in which they have been occupied.

Rule 22. The Minutes of each regular meeting of this Presbytery shall be published, with such exceptions as a majority of Presbytery may direct.

Rule 23. It shall require two-thirds of all the members present to suspend, amend or abolish a standing rule.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. DOLL, Chairman.

Madison, N. C., October, 1855."

A letter was read from Rev. E. C. Bittinger, giving an account of his labors. Whereupon it was resolved that he be requested to take a dismission from this Presbytery to join the Presbytery within whose

bounds he resides, and that the Stated Clerk be directed to forward his dismission on his application.

The committee on the Examination of Candidates reported, recommending that the examination of Mr. McGilvary on his literary course, be deemed satisfactory. This report was accepted and adopted.

The committee on the second half of the Sessional Records made a report which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee report that they examined the Sessional records placed in their hands, and recommend that they be approved with the following exceptions:

1. Greensboro' to page 239, with the exception that there is no record of reciprocal duties.
2. Chapel Hill to page 40, with the same exception.
3. Washington, to page 197, with the same exception.
4. Clarksville to page 98.
5. Fairfield to page 45.
6. Bethesda to page 106, with the exception that there is no record of reciprocal duties.
7. Stony Creek to page 74, with the exception that there is no proper record of reciprocal duties.
8. Milton to page 37, with the exception that there is no record of reciprocal duties.
9. Shiloh to page 70, with the same exception.
10. Madison with the exception that the pages of the book are not numbered.
11. Spring Hill to page 69, with the exception that the record of the case on page 68 is not full enough.

Presbytery then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING, June 13th, 1856.

Presbytery met according to adjournment, and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of yesterday were read and corrected.

N. Z. Graves, minister, and Dr. John R. Hicks, Ruling Elder, appeared, gave excuses for tardiness, and took their seats as members of Presbytery.

The hour of 10 o'clock having arrived, the order of the day was taken up. The Presbytery, was addressed by Rev. John M. P. Atkinson and Hon. A. W. Venable, with regard to the building of a Presbyterian Church in Washington City. After which the Presbytery adopted the following resolutions, viz:

1. Resolved, That this Presbytery cordially approve and endorse the repeated action of the General Assembly, recommending to the Churches to erect a church in the City of Washington, &c.

2. Resolved, That it be enjoined on all the churches within our

bounds to take up a collection in behalf of the object.

3. That the agents employed in this enterprise be recomended to the confidence and christian liberality of our churches.

Rev. Dr. Nott, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member of Presbytery.

The Committee of Domestic Missions recommended the following list of supplies, which was accepted and adopted :

Rev. James Phillips, D.D.	Pittsboro'.
" Jos. M. Atkinson,	Johnston.
" J. J. Smyth,	Salem & Winston.
" A. Currie & A. G. Hughes,	Randolph.
" C. K. Caldwell & J. W. Montgomery,	Mount Airy.
" T. U. Faucette,	Franklinton.
" A. G. Hughes,	Pittsboro',
" W. L. Miller,	Pittsboro'.
" John M. Sherwood,	Wilson.

The committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts made a report which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows :

"The committee to whom the Treasurer's accounts were referred, would report that they find the accounts correctly kept and accompanied by all the necessary vouchers.

With reference to the four shares of Bank Stock known as the Anne Smith legacy, the committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz :

Resolved, That Jesse H. Lindsay be appointed Trustee of Presbytery for holding this fund, and that he take necessary steps to have said stock transferred to himself as Treasurer of Orange Presbytery, and that he be authorized to collect and apply the dividends.

It was stated that a letter had been received from Rev. J. M. Kirkpatrick, giving reasons for absence from the present meeting of Presbytery. His excuse was deemed sufficient.

Whereas, Mr. J. C. Denny has been under the care of this Presbytery for about eight years, and his progress in his literary course has been very slow, owing, it is believed, to the fact, that he has devoted himself to teaching, contrary to the express direction of Presbytery ;

Therefore Resolved, That Mr. Denny be directed to prepare himself for examination on his whole literary course at the farthest within two years from this time.

The Committee on the first half of the sessional records made a report which was accepted and adopted.

Rev. J. J. Smyth was appointed to preach a sermon on Infant Baptism, at the next regular meeting of Presbytery. And Rev. J. M. Atkinson was appointed his alternate.

Rev. N. Z. Graves, having requested the advice of Presbytery, as to a bond held by the Successor of the trustee of the Presbyterian Church in Warrenton, a committee consisting of John Bullock, J. H. Lindsay and A. W. Venable, was appointed to bring in a minute in relation to that matter.

Resolved, That the next regular meeting of Presbytery, be held at Bethesda Church in Caswell Co., N. C., on the Wednesday before the next meeting of Synod, at 12 o'clock, M.

Mr. Woodburn, a member of Alamance Church, was introduced to the Presbytery, and after the usual examination, he was received under its care as a candidate for the ministry.

Resolved, That the Synod of North Carolina be requested to change the boundaries of Orange and Fayetteville Prebyteries, so as to include the Churches of Goldsboro', and Everettsville, within the bounds of Orange Presbytery.

Mr. John W. Wilson, Ruling Elder, obtained leave of absence from the remaining sessions of Presbytery.

Presbytery then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 14th, 1856.

Presbytery met according to adjournment and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and corrected.

Resolved, That Presbytery proceed to examine Mr. Daniel McGilvary with a view to licensing him to preach the gospel.

Rev. S. A. Stanfield and Mr. Jesse H. Lindsay were appointed a committee to examine the Latin Exegesis of Mr. McGilvary.

The committee to whom was referred the Exegesis of Mr. McGilvary, report that they have examined it, and recommend that it be sustained as a part of trial. This report was accepted and adopted.

After a full examination of Mr. McGilvary on Theology, Church History and the Sacraments, it was resolved that this examination be sustained as part of trial.

Presbytery appointed the hour of 2 o'clock, P. M., as the time to hear the sermon and critical exercise of Mr. McGilvary.

The report of the committee of Domestic Missions was then read, and after some remarks on the subject, a collection was taken up, amounting to sixty-five dollars. The Report was accepted and directed to be filed with the papers of the committee.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to procure a copy of the latest edition of the Assembly's Digest, and have it on the

Moderator's table at every meeting of the Presbytery. And that the Treasurer be instructed to pay the bill out of the Presbyterial Fund.

Rev'ds. Thomas Lynch and Geo. W. Ferrill obtained leave of absence from the remaining sessions of Presbytery.

The critical exercise of Mr. McGilvary was referred to a committee consisting of Revd. A. Wilson, D. D., and Mr. W. J. Hogan.

Mr. McGilvary then read a lecture on the 23d Psalm, which was sustained as a part of trial.

The committee to whom was referred the critical exercise of Mr. McGilvary reported, recommending its approval. This report was accepted and adopted.

Mr. McGilvary read a sermon on Gal. 5c: 13v., which was also sustained as a part of trial.

At Shiloh Church, Granville county, N. C., on the 14th day of June, 1856. The Presbytery of Orange having received testimonials in favor of Mr. Daniel McGilvary, of his having gone through a regular course of literature; of his good moral character; and of his being in communion of the church: proceeded to take the usual parts of trial for his licensure; and he having given satisfaction as to his accomplishments in literature; as to his experimental acquaintance with religion, and as to his proficiency in Divinity and other studies; the Presbytery did and hereby do express their approbation of all these parts of trial: and having adopted the confession of faith of this Church, and satisfactorily answered the questions appointed to be put to candidates to be licensed; the Presbytery did and hereby do license him, the said Daniel McGilvary, to preach the gospel as a probationer for the holy ministry, within the bounds of this Presbytery or wherever else he shall be orderly called.

The committee on the Warrenton Church case made a report recommending that Revd. N. Z. Graves be requested to call a meeting of the congregation of Warrenton Church to appoint trustees.

Whereas certain reports have been in circulation touching the character of Rev. Edward Hines in a pecuniary transaction:

And whereas these reports have been investigated by the sessions of Shiloh and Nutbush churches, in connection with an Elder from Clarksville church;

And whereas the result of this investigation has been reported to this Presbytery; Therefore resolved, that the report of these gentlemen be spread on our minutes, and that the Presbytery unanimously express it as their opinion, that in all this matter the Revd. Edward Hines has not done any thing in the slightest degree affecting his character as a gentleman or a Christian Minister.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Presbytery, singing is so important a part of family worship that our Ministers be required to

urge the introduction of this delightful part of the morning and evening sacrifices into all the families under their influence.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be authorized to purchase two hundred blank forms of sessional reports, and that the treasurer pay the bill out of the Presbyterial Fund.

Resolved, That the Treasurer's report be printed as an appendix to the minutes.

Mr. John P. Neal was introduced to the Presbytery, desiring to be taken under its care as a candidate for the Ministry, and after an examination as to his experimental acquaintance with religion and his motives in seeking the gospel ministry, he was received under the care of Presbytery.

Mr. Neal was directed by the Presbytery to enter the Theological Seminary.

Mr. John A. Woodburn was directed by the Presbytery to enter college under the supervision of the Committee on Education.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Presbytery be tendered to the congregation of Shiloh, for their kind hospitality during the present sessions of Presbytery, and that this resolution be published from the pulpit.

Presbytery then adjourned to meet at Bethesda Church in Caswell county, N. C., on Wednesday the 5th day of November, 1856, at 12 o'clock M.

Closed with singing, prayer and the apostolic benediction.

J. DOLL, *Stated Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

GREENSBOROUGH, GUILFORD, N. C.
June 9, 1856.

Report of the Treasurer of Orange Presbytery, to be submitted to the Meeting to be held at Shiloh, county of Granville, on Wednesday the 11th of June:

On the 7th of June, 1855, my Report and Vouchers were before the Presbytery at Raleigh for the year preceding—this Report embraces all operations since that date. I send my Book and Vouchers for the inspection of the Presbytery.

MONEYS RECEIVED AND DISBURSED.

Board of Education—on hand 7 June, 1855,	$ 69 50
received up to 9 " 1856,	556 26
	$625 76
Paid out, as per vouchers,	275 00
Balance on hand 9 June, 1856,	$350 76
Board of Publication—on hand 7 June, 1855,	$ 13 50
received up to 9 " 1856,	225 00
	$238 50
Paid out,	$162 00
Balance on hand, 9 June, 1856,	$ 76 50
Foreign Missions—on hand, 7 June, 1855,	$150 30
received up to 9 " 1856,	695 42
	$845 72
Paid out,	711 40
Balance on hand, 9 June, 1856,	$134 32
Domestic Missions—on hand, 7 June, 1855,	$109 50
received up to 9 " 1856,	803 66
	$913 16
Paid out,	100 00
Balance on hand, 9 June, 1856,	$813 16

Microfilmed
SOUTHWESTERN PROJECT

Church Extension—on hand 7 June, 1855,	$13 00
received up to 9 " 1856,	60 11
On hand 9 June, 1856,	$73 11
Presbyterial Fund—on hand 7 June, 1855	$190 21
received up to 9 " 1856,	424 50
	$614 71
Paid out,	328 30
On hand 9 June, 1856,	$286 41

The following churches failed to pay their assessments for the Presbyterial Fund for 1855:

Gilead $2, Gum Grove $2, Bethel $7, Warrenton $2, Yanceyville $12, Murfreesborough $2, Snow Creek $3, Pittsboro' $3, Graham $5, Alamance balance $2.

The following are delinquent, for 1856:

Gilead $2, Gum Grove $2, Griers $6, Murfreesborough $2, Danville $16, Warrenton $2, Louisburg $2, Shiloh $10, Snow Creek $3, Pittsboro' $3, Penuil $5, Bethany $2, Alamance, balance $2.

I desire to call the attention of Presbytery to the Certificate of Stock, in the Farmers Bank of Virginia. I send the Certificate and some Letters in relation to it. I think a new Certificate should issue in the name of such person as the Presbytery may designate. Rev. Mr. Lacy has been, heretofore, drawing the Dividends, and paying them over to the Treasurer, and being now out of the Presbytery, he desires to be released. Respectfully submitted,

JESSE H. LINDSAY, Tresu'r.